

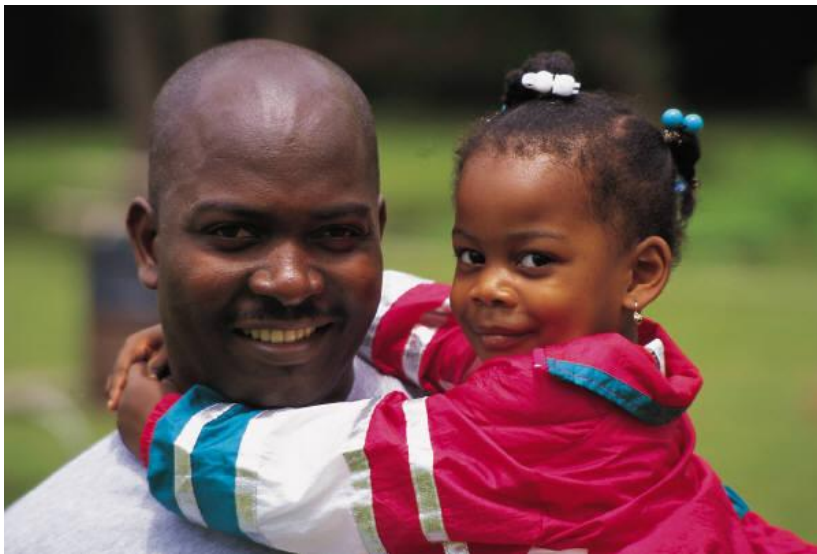
Family Structure and Children's Living Arrangements in Census Bureau Data

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*The views expressed in this presentation are those of the
author and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.*





Overview

- Definition of terms
- Level of detail available about families
- Level of detail available by geography
- Census Bureau data products
- Data available on other related topics

Data Available: National Estimates

- National estimates
 - American Community Survey (ACS)
 - Decennial: Census 2010, Census 2000, etc.
- National estimates only
 - Current Population Survey (CPS)
 - Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
 - Survey of Income and Program Participation: Event History Calendar (SIPP-EHC)

Data Available: State and Local Estimates

- American Community Survey (ACS)
 - Replaced the 'long form' of decennial
 - Annual files, 3-year files, 5-year files
- Decennial: Census 2010, Census 2000
 - Long form data in 2000 contained characteristics
 - No long form in 2010
 - Historical volumes are located at:
<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/>

Family terms used in Census products

- Household
 - Family
 - Subfamily
 - Family group



Family terms used in Census products

- Household:
 - Occupied housing unit.
 - All the people who live together in that housing unit.
- Householder:
 - at least age 15—name is on the lease or mortgage.

Family terms used in Census products

- **Family:** People who live together and are related by birth, marriage or adoption. In tables labeled “families” this means a family household, or a household that contains at least one person who is related to the householder.

Family terms used in Census products

- Subfamily: A married couple or parent/child group that does not include the householder. In published products, subfamilies are sometimes divided into related and unrelated subfamilies. This refers to whether they are related to the householder.

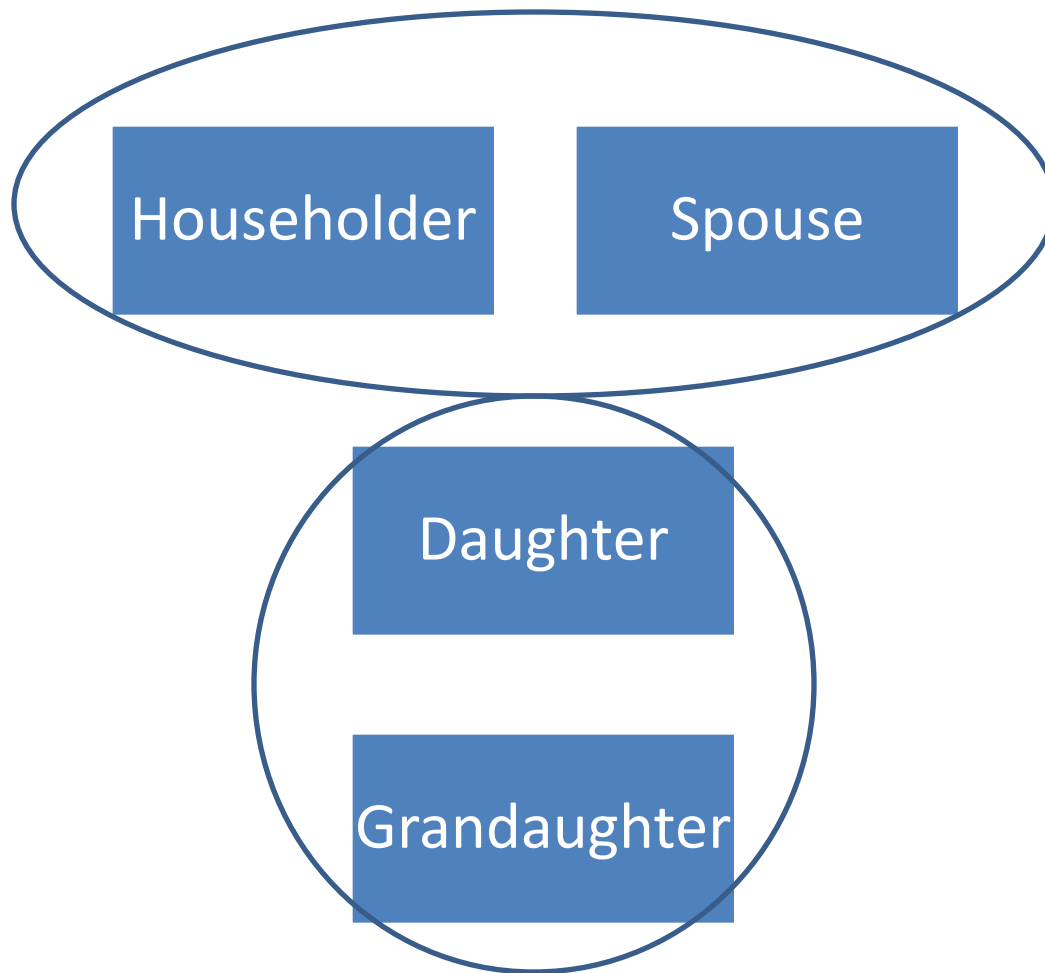
Family terms used in Census products

- Family group: Used in the America's Families and Living Arrangements tables (Current Population Survey data). These tables count each family group—those including the householder, and subfamilies separately.
- Example for use of family groups:
 - Estimate of mothers living with their children under 18.
 - Family groups will count the mom married to the householder as well as the unmarried mom who lives in her sister's house.

Family terms used in Census products

Family group =
family households +
related subfamilies +
unrelated subfamilies

Family group



Level of detail available

- Level of detail available depends on the data set
 - Relationship to householder only
 - “Pointers” between parents/children; spouses; cohabiting partners
 - These data sets also include type of relationship between parents and children, whether biological, step, or adoptive

Relationship to Householder only

- Decennial, American Community Survey (ACS)
- Householder = someone whose name is on the lease or mortgage. Must be at least 15 years old.

2 How is this person related to Person 1? *Mark (X) ONE box.*

<input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife	<input type="checkbox"/> Son-in-law or daughter-in-law
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological son or daughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Other relative
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted son or daughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Roomer or boarder
<input type="checkbox"/> Stepson or stepdaughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Housemate or roommate
<input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Unmarried partner
<input type="checkbox"/> Father or mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster child
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	<input type="checkbox"/> Other nonrelative
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent-in-law	

Source: ACS-1(2009)KFI

Data sets with “pointers”

- What is a “pointer”?
 - Variable on my record indicating my mom/dad/spouse

Person number	Relationship to householder	Sex	Age	Spouse Pointer	Mom Pointer	Dad Pointer
101	Householder	Female	32	102		
102	Spouse	Male	35	101		
103	Child	Female	10		101	102
104	Child	Male	8		101	102

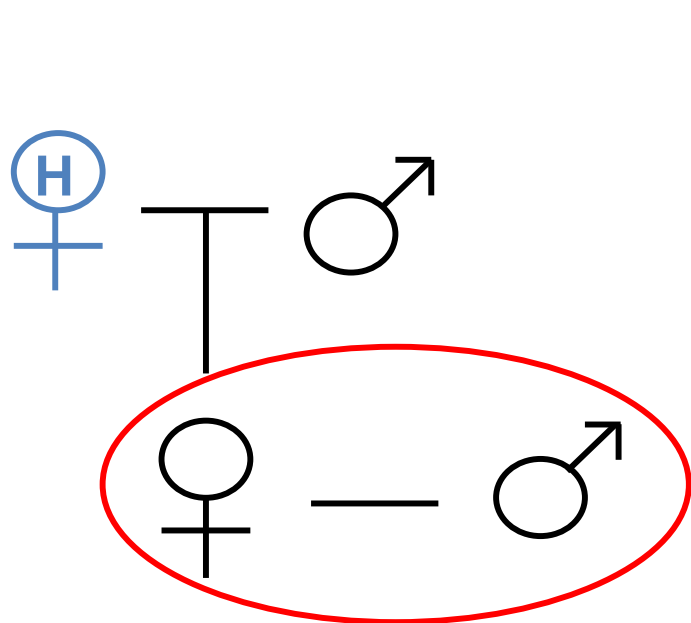
Data sets with “pointers”

- Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
 - Mother and father pointers on child’s record
 - Spouse pointers
 - Also had a matrix of all household relationships collected in the 2nd interview
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
 - Mother and father pointers on child’s record
 - Spouse pointers
 - Cohabiting partner pointers
- SIPP-EHC (event history calendar)
 - Output in terms of relationship matrix, but a little less detail than the SIPP module

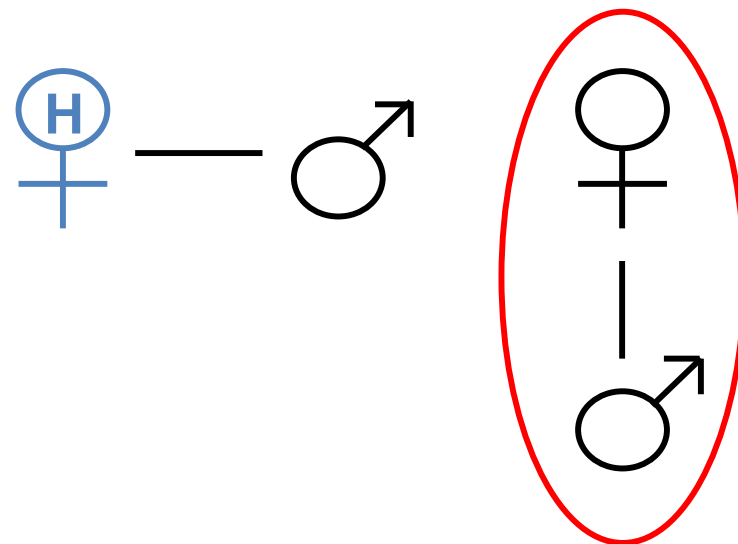
What do we mean by subfamily?

- Married couple or parent/child group that does not include the householder
 - Mother and father pointers on child's record
- Varies by data set
 - ACS, decennial, with only the relationship item
 - SIPP, CPS, where we have pointers

Subfamily Examples



Related Subfamily



Unrelated Subfamily

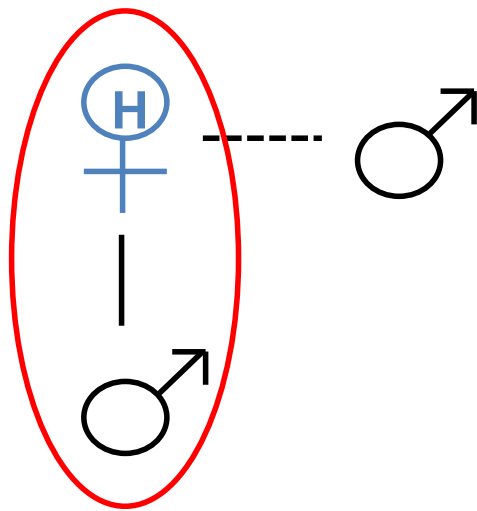
Census data about children

- How are children counted when their parents are cohabiting?
- In data sets with pointers:

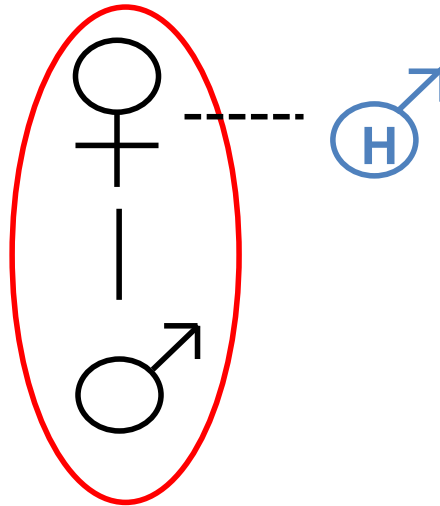
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102	Unmarried partner	Male	35	101		
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104	Child	Male	8		101	102

Census data about children

- How are children counted when they live with one cohabiting parent and the parent's partner?
 - Differs in data sets with relationship to householder only



Family Household

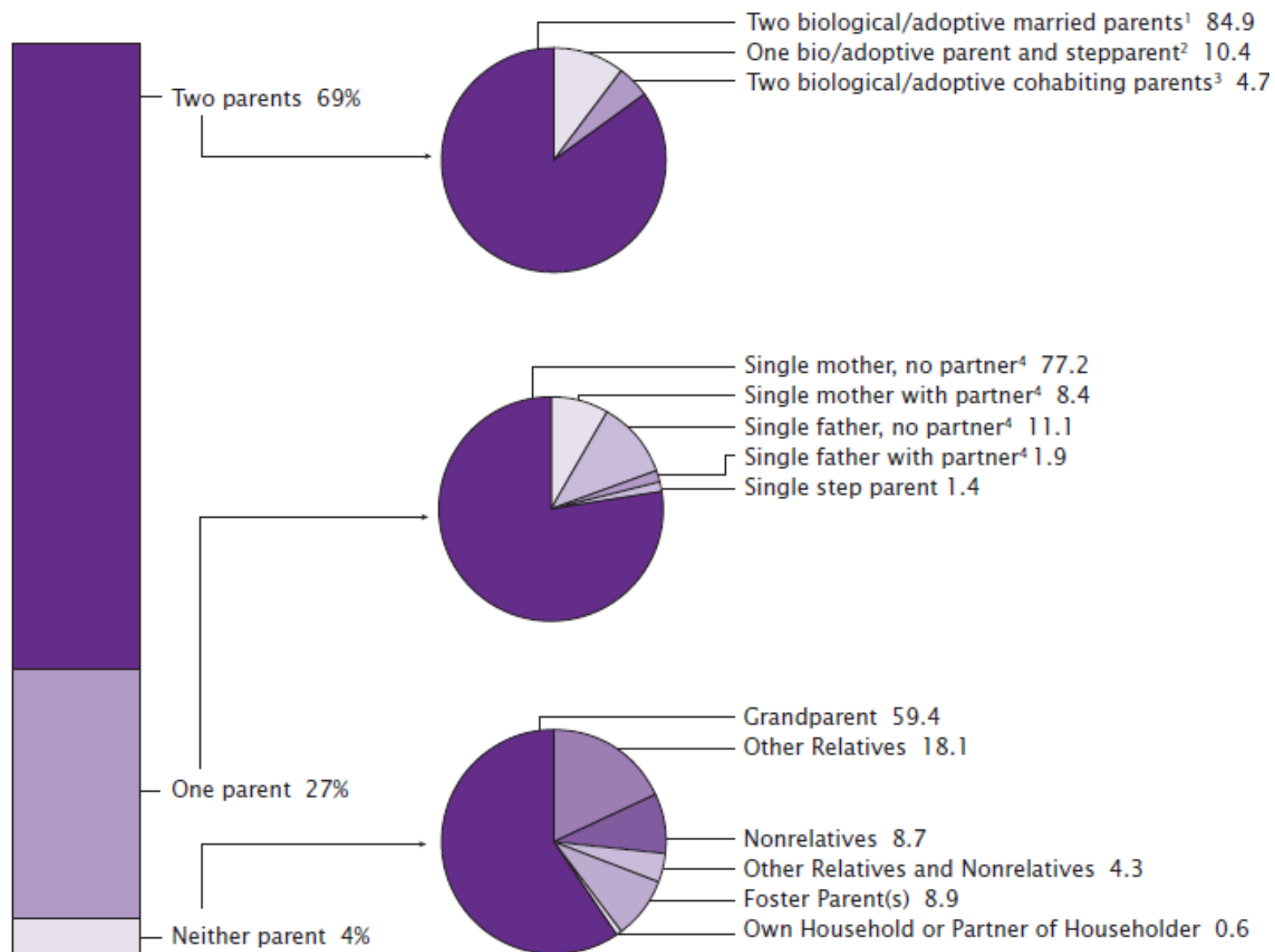


Nonfamily Household

Family Structure

- What US Census Bureau data are available to explore family structure and children's living arrangements?
 - National estimates
 - State and local level estimates
 - Published information

Percentage of Children Aged 0-17 Living in Various Family Arrangements: 2009



Data Available: Published Information

- Downloadable data files
 - FTP
 - Data Ferrett
- Census Bureau reports
- Table packages
 - American FactFinder for ACS, Decennial data
- Working papers
- Available on www.census.gov

Census data about children--overview

- Living arrangements of children
- Child well-being data
- Child care arrangements while mothers work
- School enrollment data
- Poverty data
- Health insurance coverage data
- Disability data
- Program Participation data

Census data about children

- Measuring relationships between the child and others in the household
 - Data sets with pointers vs. those with relationship item only
- How are children counted in joint custody situations?
 - Depends on respondent report

Coresidence with Grandparents in Census Bureau data

- What data do we have?
 - Grandparent/grandchildren coresidence
 - SIPP, CPS, ACS, Decennial
 - Whether grandparents are responsible for the basic care of their grandchildren
 - ACS
 - <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/QbyQfact/grandparents.pdf>

25

a. Does this person have any of his/her own grandchildren under the age of 18 living in this house or apartment?

☐

Yes

☐

No → *SKIP to question 26*

b. Is this grandparent currently responsible for most of the basic needs of any grandchild(ren) under the age of 18 who live(s) in this house or apartment?

☐

Yes

☐

No → *SKIP to question 26*

c. How long has this grandparent been responsible for the(se) grandchild(ren)?

If the grandparent is financially responsible for more than one grandchild, answer the question for the grandchild for whom the grandparent has been responsible for the longest period of time.

☐

Less than 6 months

☐

6 to 11 months

☐

1 or 2 years

☐

3 or 4 years

☐

5 or more years

Coresidence with Grandparents

- Which tables show grandparent caregivers?
 - ACS tables B10001-B10063
 - Estimates of grandparents caring for grandchildren
 - Median income for grandparent-headed households
 - Length of time caring for the grandchildren
 - Grandparent characteristics
 - Some of the tables show grandchildren
 - Coresident grandchildren by whether the grandparent is responsible for most of their basic care
 - Grandchildren by presence of parents in the household

Children's Living Arrangements

- Location of reports
 - Grandparents Living with Grandchildren: 2000 (Decennial)
 - <http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/c2kbr-31.pdf>
 - Living Arrangements of Children (SIPP)
 - <http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/children/data/sipp.html>

Child Care Arrangements data

- SIPP collects data about child care arrangements while the coresident mother (or other parent/guardian) works or is in school
 - Collected for all children ages 0-14
 - Number of hours in care
 - Cost of care
 - If they receive a child care subsidy
 - Who cares for the child while mother is working/school
 - Mother herself/other parent, self-care (older children), relative care, family day care, organized care, other nonrelatives

Child Care Arrangements data

- Location of SIPP published data:
- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/childcare/data/sipp/index.html>
- Look for 'Who's Minding the Kids' tables on the above URL

Child Well-Being data

- SIPP collects information about children's activities
 - Lessons, sports, outings
 - Fun time with the child, praise for the child
 - Reading with young children
 - Mealtimes with children
 - Family television rules
 - Academic performance (repeated grades, suspension, expulsion, changing schools)
 - Neighborhood characteristics (safety, social connections)

Child Well-Being data

- Location of SIPP published data:
 - <http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/children/data/sipp.html>
 - Look for 'A Child's Day' on the above webpage. Set of detailed tables produced periodically.

School Enrollment data

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/school/>
- Enrollment data are collected every year in the October supplement to the Current Population Survey, as well as in the ACS and SIPP
- Yearly tables for CPS data include:
 - Nursery and primary enrollment for age 3 to 6 by whether public/private, part/full day, mother's labor force participation and education
 - Enrollment status for families by whether they have dependents age 5 to 24

Poverty data

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/>
- Official poverty estimates are produced for the nation using the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey
- Local area poverty estimates are available from the American Community Survey

Health Insurance Coverage data

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/hlthins/>
- Included on some of the detailed America's Families and Living Arrangements tables for children
- Detailed CPS tables on the Health Insurance page show coverage by age

Disability data

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disability/disability.html>
- Data collected in ACS, SIPP and previously in decennial

Program Participation data

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/progpart/progpart.html>
- Data are collected in SIPP about which specific programs respondents receive.

Major means-tested programs:

- Aid to Families with Dependent Children, now TANF
- General Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Food Stamps (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Housing Assistance

Program Participation data

- Other programs for which data are collected:
 - School lunch/breakfast
 - Energy assistance
 - Veteran's payments
 - Foster care payments
 - WIC coverage
 - Social Security payments
 - Educational assistance

Survey of Income and Program Participation data

- Data collected since the mid 1980s
- Longitudinal
- Re-engineered
- Wealth of content
- Data for everyone in the household

SIPP content

- Core content (every interview)
http://www.census.gov/sipp/core_content/core_content.html
- Topical module content (periodic)
http://www.census.gov/sipp/top_mod/top_mods_chart.html

SIPP content

- Reciprocity history
- Tax rebates
- Work schedule; Employment history; Work disability history
- Education and training history
- Marital history
- Fertility history
- Migration history
- Household relationships
- Assets and liabilities; Real estate, dependent care, vehicles
- Retirement and pension plan coverage
- Medical expenses, utilization of health care
- Poverty
- Child well-being; Child care
- Adult well-being
- Child support agreements
- Support for non-household members
- Functional limitations and disabilities, for adults and children
- Employer-provided health coverage

Households and Families: 2010

- Decennial census brief released in April
- Shows numbers of multigenerational households by state

Households and Families: 2010

<http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-14.pdf>

Households and Families: 2010

2010 Census Briefs

Issued April 2012

C2010BR-14

By
Daphne Lofquist,
Terry Lugaia,
Martin O'Connell,
and
Sarah Felix

INTRODUCTION

The 2010 Census enumerated 308.7 million people in the United States, a 9.7 percent increase from 281.4 million in Census 2000. Of the total population in 2010, 300.8 million lived in 116.7 million households for an average of 2.58 people per household. This was down from an average of 2.59 in 2000 when 273.6 million people lived in 105.5 million households. The remaining 8.0 million people in 2010 lived in group-quarters arrangements such as school dormitories, nursing homes, or military barracks. This report presents information on the number and types of living arrangements of American households in 2010 derived from the relationship question on the 2010 Census.

HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIP QUESTION

The relationship item (Figure 1), a version of which has been on the census since 1880, asks the relationship of each member of the household to the householder or the person designated as the individual who owns or rents the housing unit.¹ This question provides information about individuals as well as the composition of families and households. Three separate categories describe the sons and daughters

¹ In a case of joint ownership, one individual is chosen as the householder. If this choice cannot be made, the first person 15 years and over listed on the form is chosen as the householder.

Figure 1. Reproduction of the Question on Relationship to Householder From the 2010 Census

2. How is this person related to Person 1? Mark ☒ ONE box.

<input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent-in-law
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological son or daughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Son-in-law or daughter-in-law
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted son or daughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Other relative
<input type="checkbox"/> Stepson or stepdaughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Roomer or boarder
<input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Housemate or roommate
<input type="checkbox"/> Father or mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Unmarried partner
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild	<input type="checkbox"/> Other nonrelative

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census questionnaire.

of the householder in 2010: biological, adopted, or stepchild. Relatives identified in the questionnaire are spouses, brothers, sisters, and parents of the householder, as well as grandchildren, parents-in-law, and sons/daughters-in-law.

Those who live in households but who were not related to the householder were identified as housemates/roommates, roomers or boarders, and unmarried partners of the householder. This latter group includes people who initially identified themselves as being same-sex spouses of the householder. The tables with same-sex couples show these groups in two ways. One estimate shows households as originally reported on the census forms. The second presents improved and preferred estimates of the same-sex household population, accounting for marking errors that inadvertently overestimated that

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